

Spice/K2

Idaho Office of Drug Policy
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What is Spice/K2?

- Sold as “Legal Marijuana”
- Mixture of herbal and spice plant products that are sprayed or soaked with synthetic cannabinoids
- Marketed as incense and “not for human consumption”
- BUT, has recently spiked in popularity as a product to be smoked
- Also packaged as: K2, Ultra, Summit, Blonde, Standard, Yucatan Gold, Genie, Pot-pourri, Bombay Blue, Black Momba plus many others



History

- Dr. John Huffman, Clemson University, organic chemistry professor
 - Researching effects of cannabinoids on the brain resulted in a 1995 paper that contained the methods and ingredients used to make the compound (JWH-018, his initials)
 - *“Apparently someone picked it up, I think in Europe, on the idea of doping this incense mixture with the compound and smoking it” –Dr. Huffman*

What are synthetic cannabinoids?

- Structurally diverse class of mostly synthetic substances that bind to cannabinoid receptors in the brain
- CB1, CB2 receptors primarily affect the central nervous system
 - JWH-018
 - JWH-073
 - HU-210 (on DEA Schedule I)
 - HU-211
 - CP47,497
- There are around 100 known synthetic cannabinoids, approx. 10 of them have been recently found in spice-like products

Spice in our Communities



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Un-expected Side Effects

“It should not be doing this; it should be doing the opposite... They think they’re going to mellow and that’s not what’s happening”

– Dr. Anthony Scalzo, Saint Louis University

ER Visits due to:

- Intense hallucinations and delusions
- Blurry vision
- Elevated blood pressure
- Fast heart beat
- Nausea and vomiting
- Seizures and loss of consciousness

- Much more research is needed!

Spice in Idaho

- US Poison Control reported 13 calls in 2009 and 766 in first half of 2010
- Idaho Hospitals Association surveyed ER personnel in Idaho
- Mountain Home Police Chief reports over 8 in last several weeks

Why these unexpected results?

- The packages are labeled “**NOT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION**”;
- No regulations are in place and no ingredient list is required
- A newer trend of individuals manufacturing their own synthetic cannabinoids

Is it Legal?

- 18 states have banned; a number of cities
- DEA has labeled it a “drug and chemical of concern”
- Do not technically have to be 18 to buy it unless:
 - Smoke shop has age restrictions to enter
 - Online purchasing restrictions

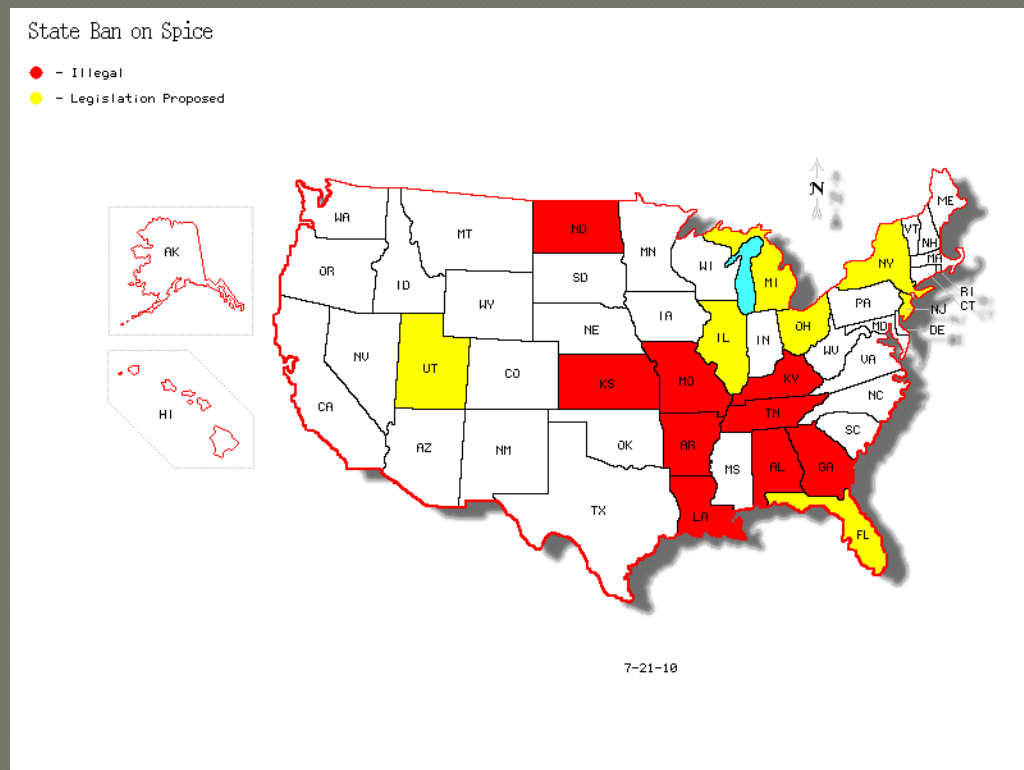
Drug Test for Spice

- Redwood Toxicology Lab Test available July 2010 – cost of \$37.50
- Identifies presence of compounds JWH-018 and JWH-073
- Detection period up to 72 hours
- 302 tests currently conducted for Idaho

Legislation Proposed

- Legislation and discussion has started for the banning of synthetic cannabinoids in:

- Florida
- Michigan
- New York
- Utah
- Ohio
- New Jersey



What exactly did they ban?

	JWH-018	JWH-073	HU-210	HU-211	CP47,497	BZP	TFMPP	Salvia
Kansas	✗	✗	✗			✗	✗	
Kentucky	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	
Georgia	✗	?	✗		✗			
Alabama	✗	✗	✗					✗
Tennessee	✗	✗	✗	✗				
Missouri	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗			
Louisiana	✗	✗	✗		✗			✗
Arkansas	✗	✗						
North Dakota	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗			
Illinois	✗							
Iowa								

Other Restrictions

- Many University substance abuse policies cover “chemically related” substances
- Currently banned in: Chile, Germany, Finland, Russia, Sweden, France, Ireland, Romania, UK, Switzerland, South Korea, Latvia, Poland, Japan
- The Military has banned its use
- Some individual counties and cities have taken action against Spice
 - Suffolk County in New York, banning the sale of certain synthetic cannabinoids to minors in the area

State Efforts Underway

- Public Awareness
- Developing a temporary rule for review by the Board of Pharmacy to ban the chemical compounds in Spice
- Drafting legislation for consideration this session to codify the rule and add the compounds to Idaho's list of controlled substances

Local Efforts Underway

- Public Awareness – Parents, Local Shops, Civic Groups
- City / County Ordinance to ban in the interest of public health, safety and welfare
- Materials available from the Office of Drug Policy

Current Legal Structure

- Prosecuting juveniles for possession or use under inhalants statute – I.C. 18-1502(B)
- Prohibit use as a condition of juvenile or adult probation terms
- Drug Court Participation

Idaho Office of Drug Policy

- Questions?
- Prevalence in your Community?
- Next Steps – How can we help?